

PERISTĒRIA Humboldtii.

Humboldt's Peristeria.

GYNANDRIA MONANDRIA.

Nat. ord. ORCHIDACEÆ, § VANDEÆ. Div. MAXILLARIDÆ.

PERISTERIA. *Botanical Register*, vol. 23. fol. 1953.

P. Humboldtii; racemo elongato pendulo multifloro, calyce patulo, sepalis oblongis concavis obtusis, petalis rhombeis obtusis planis minoribus, labelli inflexi hypochilio carnosio oblongo concavo, metachilio bilobo laciniis erectis cuneatis carnosis margine inferiore valdè incrassato medio appendice bilobâ carnosâ divaricatâ utrinque bidentatâ aucto, epichilio unguiculato canaliculato apice dilatato truncato, columnâ utrinque in marginem rotundatum alatum productâ, stigmatè et columnæ dorso villosis, caudiculâ lineari, glandulâ lunatâ.

Anguloa superba. *Humboldt, Bonpland & Kunth, nov. gen. & sp. pl.* 1. 343. t. 93. *Lindl. Gen. & Sp. Orch.* p. 160.

For this noble plant, which has a pendulous raceme a couple of feet long, we are indebted to John Wilmore, Esq., of Oldford, near Birmingham, who imported it from Porto Cabullo, in the province of Venezuela, about three years since. It flowered for the first time in March, 1842, and in April was exhibited to the Horticultural Society where it was distinguished by a silver medal. In many respects it has the habit of *Peristeria Barkeri*, but the leaves have longer foot-stalks.

When the genus *Peristeria* was founded nobody suspected that the long sought *Anguloa superba* of Humboldt could belong to it; still less did we imagine, when this noble species was sent from Birmingham, that it could be the very same. Nevertheless, upon attentively considering Humboldt's figure, no doubt can be entertained of the fact; or that *Anguloa superba* is nothing more than this *Peristeria* with the raceme made to grow erect instead of pendulous. The plant of that great traveller is described as an inhabitant of

trees in the temperate parts of the province of Tumbez, near Zaruma, in Peru, and a village called Catacocha; it was also found cultivated in the gardens of Loxa, at an elevation of between 6 and 7000 feet above the sea. Its Spanish name is said to be *Periquito*.

Upon comparing our plant with the original figure of *Anguloa* in the *Flora Peruviana* it is obvious that it cannot be referred to that little known genus, one of the most distinctive characters of which is having what Ruiz and Pavon call a chrysalis-shaped lip (that is, we presume, a lip rolled up in the form of a chrysalis) seated on a long stalk; by which circumstance in particular it is distinguished from *Maxillaria*.

Thus it appears that neither of Humboldt's *Anguloas* belong to the genus; *A. superba* being this *Peristeria Humboldtii*, and *A. grandiflora* bring *Stanhopea insignis*. With respect to Pöppig's *Anguloa squalida*, the figures of this author are so bad that it is difficult to say what it is; it may really be an *Anguloa*.

Fig. 1. represents a side view of a lip and column; 2. the lip seen from above: 3. the column in half-face, the lip being cut off.